



SARAH LIU—THE TECH

Students of the Martin Luther King Jr. Design Seminar, a program offered over IAP, display their art installations in Lobby 10. These projects address the principles of Dr. King and the students' ideas on topics such as human rights, justice, racism, and equality.

MIT add/drop system moves to digital format

New application is meant to reduce add/drop hassle

By Victoria Messuri

A new online application was introduced to the MIT community on January 27, allowing students to add, drop, and change courses via their own electronic submissions. A number of key forms are also expected to go paperless in the near future.

Information Services and Technology (IS&T) and the Registrar's Office implemented the switch to the electronic forms. Online add/drop differs from the old procedure in that students have the freedom to add and drop without having to seek out professors' signatures on hard copy forms turned in to the Registrar's Office. All forms and digital signatures are handled through the program, notifying advisors (and in some cases, instructors) of the student's

Add/Drop Paperless, Page 15

2.00B, Toy Product Design, cancelled for this semester

Other classes to meet Course 2A requirement

By Tiffany Chen

Toy Product Design, 2.00B, has been cancelled this Spring 2014 but will be offered again in Spring 2015. Other courses, most prominently 2.007, Design and Manufacturing, will count toward the requirements fulfilled by 2.00B.

According to Professor David R. Wallace PhD '94, who teaches the course, there was no graduate student with sufficient knowledge of the material available to teach the class.

"I felt that I could not fully cover both 2.00B and 2.744 [Product Design, a graduate class that Wallace also teaches in the spring] by myself and also maintain the type of learning experience we hope to offer in either class. Since 2.744 was not offered in 2013, and many graduate students are on a 2 year cycle, the decision was made to cancel 2.00B for this year," Wallace said.

Taken mostly by freshmen, 2.00B offers an introduction to the product design process with a focus on toys. Students work in teams to design, prototype, and build a toy from start to finish. According to the course website, "Students work closely with a local sponsor, an elementary school, and experienced mentors on a themed toy design project."

The course has, since the beginning, been taught by a graduate student taking the lead teaching role, with Wallace as a supporting role. Other graduates, undergraduates, and outside mentors also help provide mentorship to the individual teams. As Wallace said, this model seems to give the graduate instructor a great learning opportunity and has worked well with the predominantly freshman classes.

Students have expressed disappointment at the announcement of the cancellation.

2.00B cancellation, Page 10

News Briefs

Sophomore lawyers up after getting subpoenaed for Bitcoin project details

Jeremy L. Rubin '16 has sought help from the Electronic Frontier Foundation after receiving requests from the New Jersey attorney general's office for documents and code related to a hackathon project he worked on with three other MIT students.

The project, Tidbit, was a project intended to help websites make money without ads by running Bitcoin-mining code within users' browsers. The project won Rubin, Kevin C. King '14, Oliver R. Song '14, and Carolyn Zhang '14 an award for innovation in the Node Knockout competition in November.

An attorney from the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an advocacy group for digital rights, argued that the state of New Jersey has no jurisdiction over Tidbit and asked that Rubin be granted immunity from prosecution under the Fifth Amendment, should the subpoena stand. The attorney also said that Tidbit was a proof-of-concept that did not actually mine Bitcoins yet.

The New Jersey attorney general's office responded, saying that they were trying to determine whether Tidbit violated the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, and that the subpoena was authorized since Tidbit could affect New Jersey consumers.

The Tech will continue to cover this story as it develops.

Applicants receive email falsely stating they were admitted to MIT

According to the MIT Admissions blog, an email about financial aid, sent both to students admitted early and to current applicants, included the line "You are on this list because you are admitted to MIT!" in its footer.

In the blog post, the Admissions Office's Chris Peterson SM '13 apologized, saying that when he was applying for colleges, he was hurt after receiving a letter from a college that got his name wrong. "[It] crushes — crushes — me to think that I might have unintentionally inflicted something similar

News brief, Page 11

Early Sophomore standing numbers released

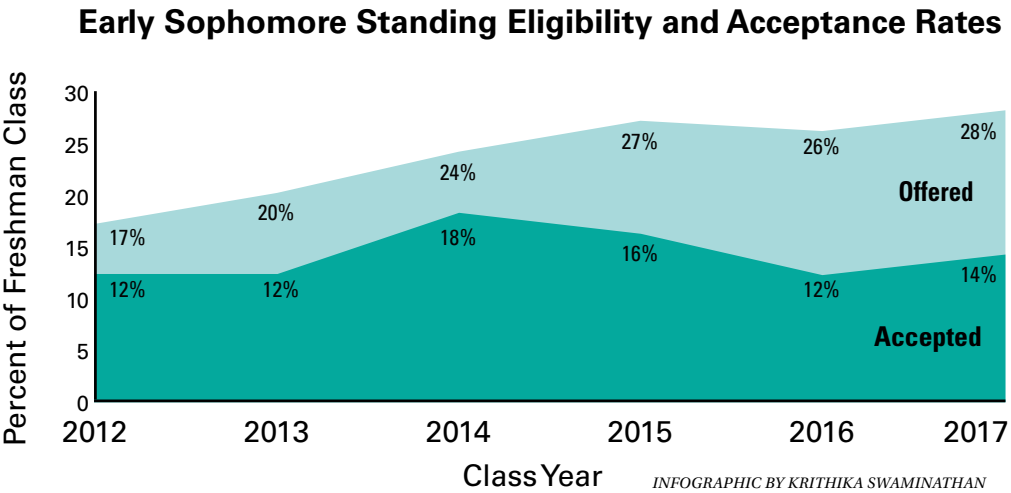
Number of students receiving early sophomore standing increases from previous year

By Alexandra Delmore

STAFF REPORTER

This year, 316 freshmen were offered early sophomore standing. This is 28.4 percent of the class, an increase from last year's 25.9 percent. Additionally, 158 students chose to accept early sophomore standing so far, up from 134 acceptances last year.

Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education Julie B. Norman sent out the offers to eligible freshmen in early December. In order to be eligible for early sophomore standing, freshmen must have completed 25 percent of their SB, or 96 units, by the end of their first semester. These freshman must



Sophomore standing, Page 12

IN SHORT

Deadline for June 2014 applications is this Friday, February 7th. If you plan to graduate in June, apply now! There is no penalty associated with removing yourself from the list.

Applications for EECScen is due next Friday, February 14th. Any undergraduates in an EECS-related or EECS lab can apply.

The spring meal plan change period ends on Thursday, February 13. If you'd like to make a change to your plan, go to: <https://odysseyhms-web.mit.edu/hmswebstudent/>

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

MIT ALUM, ENGINEER, DIES

Willis Ware, computer engineering pioneer, dies at 93.

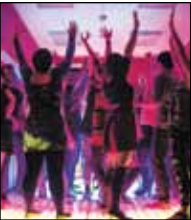
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reif responds to "Breaking Silence"
OPINION, p. 4

SEXUAL ASSAULT AT MIT

Students discuss impact of rape culture at MIT
OPINION, p. 5



THE EAST CAMPUS DISCO DANCE FLOOR

The IAP project took a group effort to turn a "bad idea" into reality.

ARTS, p. 9

A MOVIE JUST A BIT TOO SWEET

Labor Day overplays a predictable romance, and comes off as creepy.

ARTS, p. 8

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Putting an end to the tolerance of rape culture

MIT students and policies have not led the way — they should

Rape culture, from Page 4

ture that permits people to inflict pain on others — be they male, female, transgender, genderqueer, or of another gender; whether they be asexual, queer, bisexual, lesbian, gay, straight, or of another sexual orientation.

Verily, rape is an act of violence and power, not sex. The way a person looks, dresses, dances, or acts is never a substitute for sexual consent, and the absence of a “no” does not automatically register as a “yes” in the arena of sexual consent.

Perhaps the most prevalent and insidious forms of rape culture at MIT is the alarming frequency with which alcohol is used as a weapon to target individuals. This is the aspect of rape culture that most directly impacts the safety of many students. Instead of placing the onus of preventing rape on the potential perpetrators — men in 9 out of 10 rape situations — people often tell women what to do to prevent assault: they should drink less, not walk around late at night, carry a whistle or pepper spray, not wear something so “provocative”, or should not “lead a guy on.” For instance, many women who attend a party together will have predetermined rules and signs for each other if they are in a potentially dangerous situation. But rarely, if ever, do men have any agreed-upon rules to ensure that their peers are not committing assault. The onus continues to be placed on potential victims to ensure their own safety, while little action is taken to teach people to not commit rape — the glaring fallacy of that logic is the assumption that rape is inevitable. But rape — like misogyny, racism, and homophobia — is not inevitable.

Another example of rape culture includes posts and comments on social media platforms. Two frequently visited social media sites at MIT are the “MIT Confessions” page on Facebook and *isawyou.mit.edu*. Sometimes people use the sites as legitimate methods for connecting with others, or simply for venting. Many individuals, however, exploit the sites’ structures to post voyeuristic remarks on others that they have seen. Indeed, others need only peruse either site for a few minutes to find as many as a dozen examples. For instance, one post we found was about someone trying to catch glances at another person changing their clothes. While these sites tout their openness and claim that the poster takes “full responsibility” for whatever they post, these creepy and offensive posts still come through. Just as *The Tech* controls what is published in their paper, depending on their standards and ethics, these sites ought to have a set of guidelines for what is reasonable and what is not.

Voo Doo, MIT's student-run humor paper, is also a toxic influence on campus. This publication receives funding from the Undergraduate Association (UA), which in turn receives almost all of its funding from students' tuition and student life fees. Yet *Voo Doo* is known to have published multiple

offensive, harassing cartoons and articles. Thus, students may be surprised to learn that their money is used to fund a “satirical” publication that has published rape cartoons, which actively trivialize a devastating and traumatic crime. *Voo Doo* has previously defended its graphic depictions of sexual assault under grounds of free speech, humor, and pushing boundaries. Making “jokes” out of sexual assault survivors is neither humorous nor inventive. Rather, it simply maintains the status quo by belittling them in one of the most painful ways possible and normalizing such horrendous acts of violence. In addition to depictions of sexual assault, the publication satirizes racial violence with depictions of lynching and the Holocaust.

We call on the Undergraduate Association and the Association of Student Activities to take a strong stance against rape culture and cease funding for *Voo Doo* unless the publication agrees to refrain from using sexual assault for the sake of jokes.

Our community discussion of sexual assault is lacking, and we hope to fill this communication void.

Finally, a recent example that received a great deal of press was the removal of murals in Burton-Conner due to Title IX violations. We feel that the core of the issue was miscommunication and misinformation: students conflated guidelines in the “Mind and Hand Book” with federal law under Title IX, but different murals were removed under either grounds. Students, especially in responses in The Tech, focused energies onto a blanket defense of free speech and public art (in a privately owned residential space, we might add). But why was the key issue of the violent and offensive content of the murals violating Title IX ignored? Where were *The Tech* articles that dissected why certain BC residents wanted to keep the murals while others felt unsafe or sexually harassed by them? Whenever students, faculty, or staff attempted to start those discussions, they were quickly and fiercely shot down by the same types of individuals proclaiming “freedom of speech,” a mantra that many assume shields them from criticism but in fact often further silences assault and harassment

survivors. We ask that students, faculty, and administrators work together — via, e.g., the new Title IX Working Group composed of students — to understand not only Title IX and living group culture, but also the underlying problem of rape culture prevalent across the nation and at MIT.

Debunking “freedom of speech” arguments

A common defense of the preceding behaviors is that those who perpetuate rape culture are simply exercising their freedom of speech. This argument is both incorrect and harmful. We have federal, state, and campus-wide legal policies, like Title IX, Massachusetts Civil Rights Act, and the MIT Mind and Hand Book, respectively, to protect people from “hate speech” and harassing language and behavior, and in many cases this legislation was hard-won by communities of survivors and activists. Moreover, MIT as a private university has more autonomy in regulating speech than many people think it does.

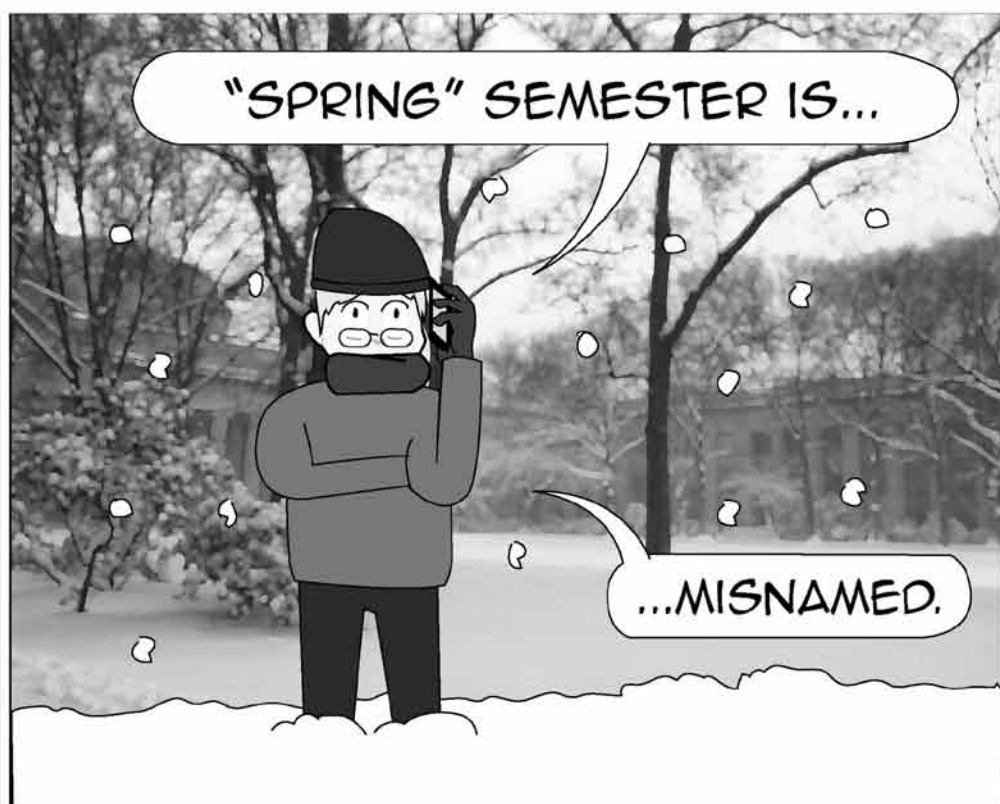
We also find the free speech defense harmful and misinformed because what supposed “free speech” advocates fail to realize is that those fighting against rape culture are usually not trying to make it illegal for anyone to speak their mind. Indeed, it is rare to find anyone pushing for legislation to ban rape “jokes” or misogynistic language — both of which contribute to rape culture. Rather, people who speak up against such language do so because words have consequences. When someone makes a joke, the group being laughed at matters. When you make an offensive comment about rape, the comment targets rape survivors — and when you defend such statements with your “right to free speech,” you suppress survivors into silence and trivialize their traumatic experiences. Writing people off as “easily offended” or “sensitive” perpetuates rape culture through the normalization of sexual assault, and perpetuates a culture of shame and silence for survivors.

In the next part of this series, we will continue to discuss the specific steps we can take as a community to eradicate rape culture.

Cory Hernandez is a member of the class of 2014, Mitali Thakor is a graduate student in the department of Science, Technology, and Society, Charlie Andrews-Jubelt is a member of the class of 2017, and Chacha Durazo is a member of the class of 2014.



BY ERIKA TRENT



I said, my PhD will be figuring out how to go back in time.

That's insane!

And even more impossible than the usual graduate research!

Look, it may seem like a good idea, but it's terrible in practice! There are limits to the times and places you can travel to, as well as how much of history you can change!

While I'd like to go take out Genghis Khan and save millions of lives...

...I'd kind of stand out.

Solution, page 10

7					3	2	4	6
	1		8	5	6	7		
		2			7			
3	6		4		9		2	8
			6			4		
		6	3	7	1		8	
9	3	1	2					7

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution, page 10

3x	180x			48x	
	60x			4	
30x		24x			2
		8x	1-		
8x	6		9x		4-
	12x			5	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

UPPERCUT by Steve Sullivan



Soda Speak by S.N. & Robert Francis

Solution, page 10

ACROSS

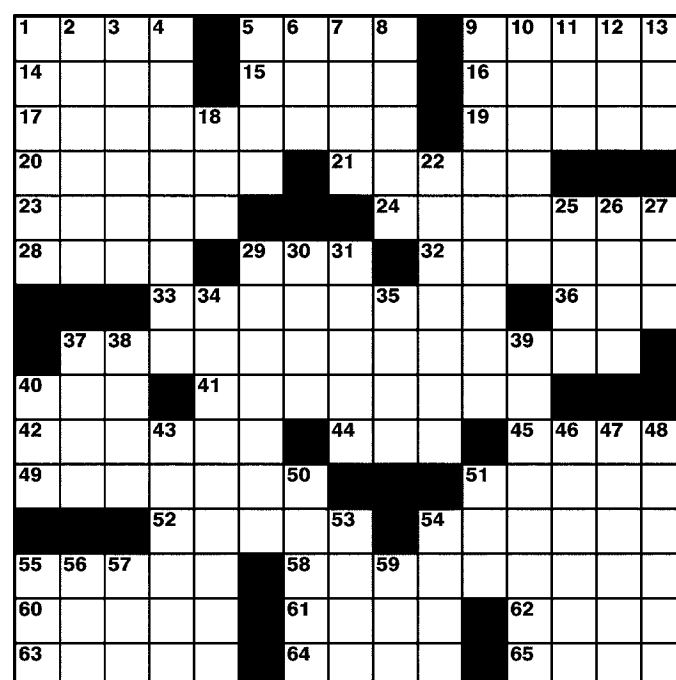
- 1 Toss out
- 5 Upscale retail chain
- 9 Chill out
- 14 Atlas section
- 15 Alter text
- 16 Held in reserve
- 17 University of West
Florida home
- 19 Battle mount
- 20 Scarlett O'Hara's maid
- 21 Hawk or Raptor
- 23 Golf course
- 24 First pope
- 28 Perimeter
- 29 Very loudly, to Liszt
- 32 Wiggle room
- 33 Berated
- 36 Ending for elect
- 37 Colorado mountains
- 40 Fish feature
- 41 Straighten out
- 42 California Zephyr
operator

- 44 Figure out
45 "That's a relief!"
49 Celebrant
51 Kick around
52 Try to buy
54 Cue
55 Capital of Liechtenstein
58 Surpass in shouting
60 Stroke of luck
61 Nordic gear
62 iPod model
63 Carried out
64 Safari setup
65 Flip out

DOWN

- 1 Sancho Panza's mount
- 2 Log-on entry
- 3 De Beers business
- 4 Master openers
- 5 Exec. department head
- 6 Hoopla
- 7 Industrial oven
- 8 Shots in the dark

- 9 Potpourri piece, perhaps
10 Admittance
11 Tell it like it isn't
12 Hotshot
13 Crossed out
18 1 Down, for one
22 On the loose
25 Bit of kindling
26 Roof section
27 Pumppernickel grain
29 Washed out
30 Zip around
31 Crumbly cheeses
34 Evened out
35 Completely cooked
37 Street performer
38 Being aired
39 Recent arrivals
40 Quite a ways
43 Chew out
46 Of a Scottish
philosopher
47 Word on some euro
coins



- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 48 Janitor's implement | 55 Military Families Mo. supporter |
| 50 Fowl place | 56 Rather like |
| 51 Rainbow shape | 57 Excavated |
| 53 Heat up in a hurry | 59 Part of pewter |
| 54 Cry for attention | |

EXHIBIT REVIEW

The Disco Dance Floor by First East

Collaboration and power tools were key to dance floor premiere

By Priya Kikani

Hastily printed signs warning of bright, flashing lights were emblazoned across the doorways of First East for a very real reason. From fall semester through IAP, the residents of First East designed and built a disco dance floor, which we unveiled as hosts of the annual Bad Ideas Ball.

Although Bad Ideas Weekend is typically characterized by such events as the infamous Green Building Challenge and cheese-ball eating contests, the world premiere of the second generation disco dance floor is universally acknowledged as a very good bad idea. The dance floor is composed of six modules, creating a sixteen by eight foot party area that features approximately 4,608 LEDs flashing to the music. Highlighted patterns include rapidly changing cascades of color, rainbow spirals that can only be described as “trippy,” and Nyan Cat (as well as other crowd-pleasing animated GIFs including a dancing banana and Mario).

Incorporating these patterns into the visual display required intensive work. Namely, we created a Web UI that allows someone without coding experience to add, subtract, and layer generic elements (like colored lines) to create brand new patterns. Popular patterns could be saved for immediate use. The code is scalable to a floor of any size.

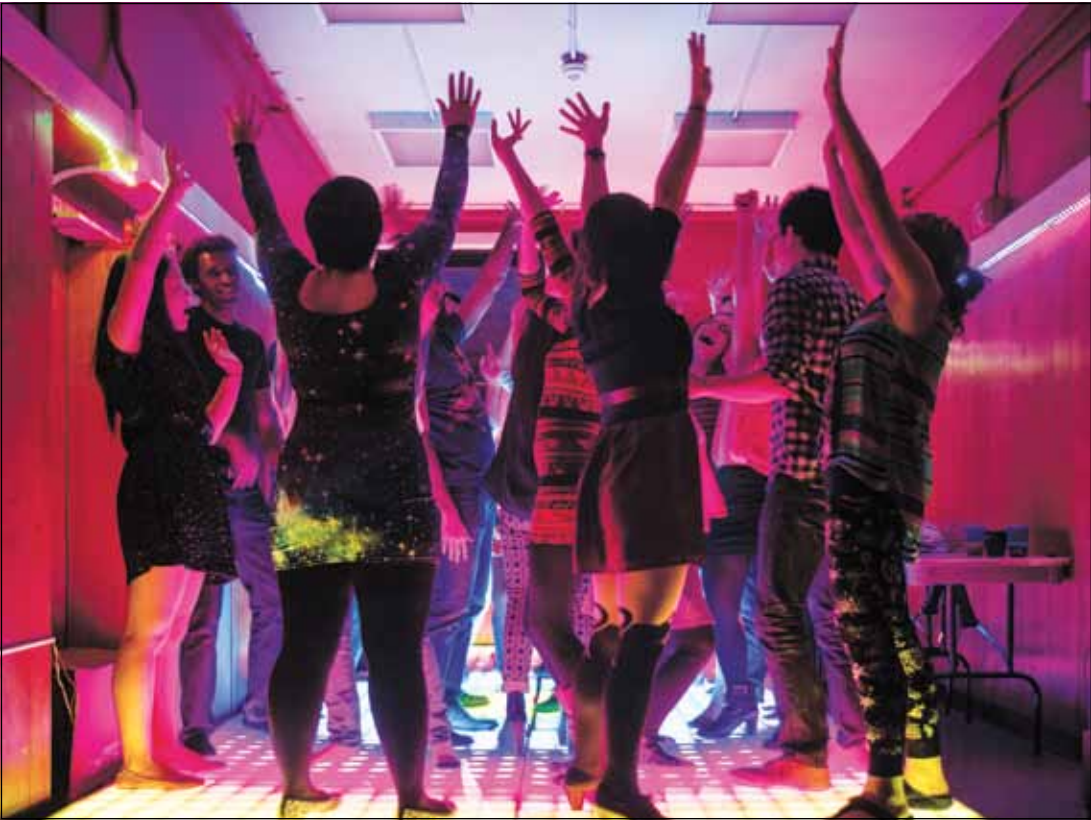
Laughing and cursing were heard in equal measure throughout the build process as the denizens of First East labored late into the nights of IAP. It was interesting to observe the surprisingly Darwinian process of creating the dance floor.

In order to minimize both man-hours and cost, we had to be versatile. The first solution to any execution problem is always the most labor-intensive, and if we had not improved upon our initial idea, the dance floor would probably still be under construction. Thus, we used natural selection to choose the most efficient implementations, from sanding technique to cross-sectional support installation. We the builders lived in a constant state of flux as issues ranging from malfunctioning equipment to insanely warped wood threatened to hinder our progress.

The project was purely motivated by the desire to see the idea become a reality.

This article would not be complete without mention of Nubby, our faithful drill bit. Nubby, bless his soul, was our first responder, drilling every pilot hole. Though he was injured in battle (broken in half), he continued to fight to fabricate holes for us and ultimately prevailed.

Okay, we did get sentimental about some of our equipment, but just like the disco dance floor creators, we were faced with sub-optimal conditions. We needed people with all types of skills to bring this idea to reality, from snack-making to coding to power-tool-wielding. And during the late nights of construction, some even discovered new skills as soldering guerillas



SHERRY REN

First East presented “The Disco Dance Floor” for this year’s Bad Ideas Weekend.

and drill-press whisperers.

Never before have I worked on a project of this size that was purely motivated by the desire to see the idea become reality. Finally, with great pride, the disco dance floor literally took center stage at the Bad Ideas Ball on Sunday, January 26th.

Undulating lights and enthusiastic builders evidently make for great parties. To complement the dance floor, a hallway was lined with LEDs, and the existing lights framing the dance floor area were

programmed to mimic the dance floor. Hit pop songs sound much better when heard from the top of a pulsing circle that’s changing from purple to blue as you fist pump.

But the disco dance floor is not confined to the friendly location of First East. One module made an appearance at TechFair and attracted many curious visitors to our booth. Further work on the dance floor allowed us to generate patterns on the floor that are synced to the beat of the music. We

also created a human density sensor system that adjusts the pattern based on the number of people in a given area.

Bad Ideas, the Council of the Arts at MIT (CAMIT), Techx, the EC housemasters, First East alumni, and current residents all deserve huge thanks for donating to the dance floor. Without their help, this amazing creation would not have been possible.

You can come see the disco dance floor at the next First East Party!

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arts@tech.mit.edu

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Solution to Sudoku
from page 6

7	8	5	1	9	3	2	4	6
2	1	4	8	5	6	7	9	3
6	9	3	7	2	4	8	1	5
1	4	2	5	8	7	3	6	9
3	6	7	4	1	9	5	2	8
8	5	9	6	3	2	4	7	1
4	7	8	9	6	5	1	3	2
5	2	6	3	7	1	9	8	4
9	3	1	2	4	8	6	5	7

Solution to Techdoku
from page 6

1	5	3	6	2	4
3	1	5	2	4	6
5	3	1	4	6	2
6	4	2	5	1	3
2	6	4	1	3	5
4	2	6	3	5	1

Solution to Crossword
from page 7

D	U	M	P	S	A	K	S	R	E	L	A	X
A	S	I	A	E	D	I	T	O	N	I	C	E
P	E	N	S	A	C	O	L	A	S	T	E	E
P	R	I	S	S	Y	N	B	A	E	R		
L	I	N	K	S		S	T	P	E	T	E	R
E	D	G	E		F	F	F	L	E	E	W	A
				Y	E	L	L	E	D	A	T	I
M	O	S	Q	U	I	T	O	R	A	N	G	E
F	I	N		U	N	T	A	N	G	L	E	
A	M	T	R	A	K		S	E	E		W	H
R	E	V	E	L	E	R				A	B	U
			B	I	D	O	N		P	R	O	M
V	A	D	U	Z		O	U	T	S	C	R	E
F	L	U	K	E		S	K	I	S		N	A
W	A	G	E	D		T	E	N	T		S	N

Students lament cancellation of 2.00B

No knowledgeable graduate student available to teach intro course

2.00B cancellation, from Page 1

“It’s really disappointing, honestly. It’s supposed to give an introduction to Course 2 to a lot of freshmen, and I was still deciding between 2A with 6 and 6-2, and I feel like if I had taken 2.00B this semester I would’ve gotten a better view of what Course 2 is supposed to be,” said Carlos A. Henriquez ‘17.

Rory M. Beyer ‘17 said, “There’s so many people that wanted to take it. It was kind of dis-

appointing that they couldn’t pull it off. I might try to take it next year. It’s definitely a bummer.”

According to an email sent out by Brandy J. Baker, the Academic Administrator of the Un-

Now 2.007 will fulfill half of the 2.00 requirement, as well as half of a class in a student’s 2A concentration.

“Many upperclassmen, even those not involved in course 2 or course 2A, suggested 2.00B as a fun and engaging way to be introduced to Course 2,” said Ryan A. Robinson, ‘17.

dergraduate Office of Mechanical Engineering, 2.007 will fulfill half of the 2.00 requirement, as well as half of a class in the student’s concentration for Course 2A.



CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH

Students weaved their way around an accident involving a Boston Daytime shuttle and a black Porsche Cayenne late Wednesday morning at 77 Mass Ave. The winter storm started early that morning and continued into the afternoon and evening, dropping almost ten inches of snow over Boston and Cambridge.

Personal Assistant needed to help reduce our work load.

Computer skills needed good with organization. You will be well paid.

Interested person(s) Should contact: **ruben.muro447@hotmail.com** for more info and wages.

FREE 2 AKC Tea Cup Yorkies Puppies

Male and female to a good home. They have current shorts and play along with children and other animals.

Contact (alexanderwilliam770@yahoo.com) for more information.

This space donated by The Tech

Epsilon Theta Spring 2014 Rush Schedule

Meet us at the chapel turnaround (across Maseeh) at the listed time. Look for the yellow sign!
Vegan options available at every meal!

Friday 2/7

- 5:15 PM Tacos! Stuff tacos to your heart’s desire.
- 7:00 PM Food Tongue 101. Pear wonton peach sauce food tongue?
- 9:00 PM LAN Party. Warcraft 3, Starcraft 2. Natural Selection 2. Age of Empires 2, League of Legends. You name it!

Saturday 2/8

- 12:15 PM Lunch! Join us for a tasty home-cooked meal by our cook Karen.
- 1:30 PM Anime Marathon. Join us for an Anime Marathon of Eden of the East!
- 5:15 PM Dinner! More food by Karen. Yum!
- 7:00 PM Programming Competition. Write an AI to compete in a short game of our design.
- 9:00 PM Laser Maze. Homemade laser security system, Nerf gun guards, puzzles, what else could budding spies want?

Sunday 2/9

- 12:15 PM Lunch. Karen is the best. She makes us tasty food. Join us in eating said food.
- 1:30 PM Python Bee. "Now was that three spaces or four? Darn. Let’s start over."
- 3:30 PM Manhunt. How quickly the tables turn and the prey becomes the predator. Rock paper scissors tag---tag the last of your prey at your own risk! Join us on campus at Lobby 7!
- 5:15 PM Make Your Own Pizza! Try your hand at crafting a delicious pizza.
- 7:00 PM Scary Games By Committee. Play scary games! Watch other people play scary games! AAAAAAAAAAAAAA!
- 9:00 PM Charades Variants. Impossible charades, telephone charades, contact charades, blindfolded charades, ALL OF THE ABOVE AT ONCE.

Know something important we should write about?

(We probably don’t know about it.)

Let us know.

news@tech.mit.edu

News brief, from Page 1

on some of you,” he wrote.

Peterson said the mistake arose from “an (apparently) undocumented side-effect” of merging mailing lists in MailChimp, an email marketing service.

He said he was unaware of mistake until he saw a thread about it on College Confidential, a forum for students applying to colleges.

“I’m not sure what it means. We could always hope right!” one user wrote. Several others suspected it was a joke; another said it might be an error.

Peterson eventually posted a clarification in the thread. “I hope you’ll forgive me,” he said.

Draft report released on graduate student housing needs

A group charged last year with reporting on graduate stu-

dent housing needs released a draft report Tuesday recommending building housing for 500-600 students. The draft report also made recommendations for creating approximately 400 beds “to meet swing-space needs over the course of the next decade.” The report was first commissioned by Provost Martin A. Schmidt PhD ‘88 to the Graduate Student House Working Group. The committee was asked to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current housing situation and recommending ways to better improve housing.

The final report will be released in mid-spring. Schmidt, along with the new Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD ‘88 and the Executive Vice President Israel Ruiz SM ‘01, will issue a response to the upcoming report once it has released.

—Leon Lin and Tushar Kamath

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PEACE CORPS AT MIT

Saturday, February 8

PANEL EVENT:

THINKING LOCALLY, ACTING GLOBALLY
10:30 a.m.

For event details, contact MIT
Peace Corps recruiter Katrina Deutsch
kdeutsch@peacecorps.gov

Peace Corps

peacecorps.gov - 855.855.1961

Do you wish your sport was covered?

Hello, Athletes, look at the sports page, now back to you, now back to the sports page, now back to you. Sadly, your sport isn’t there, but if you started writing for *The Tech*, it could be. Look down, back up, where are you? You’re on the front page. Anything is possible when you write for *The Tech*.

sports@tech.mit.edu

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STUDENTS!

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<http://smart.mit.edu/fellowships/smurf/smurf.html>

Singapore-MIT Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SMURF)

More freshmen are early sophomores

Some students say they want to bypass the freshman credit limit

Sophomore standing, from Page 1

have completed or received credit for the majority of the math and science general institute requirement (GIR) and met the freshman communications intensive (CI) requirement. Credits received during independent activities period (IAP) do not count toward this quota, with the exception of 8.01L Physics I and 18.02A Calculus. Credits received from Advanced Placement (AP) classes and Advanced Standing Exams are especially important for meeting all of these requirements.

Most students accept or decline the offer before the deadline in order to plan spring classes.

The deadline for accepting early sophomore standing is the spring semester's Add Date, Friday March 7, 2014, but most students accept or decline the offer in January so that they can plan accordingly for the spring semester.

One of the main benefits of accepting early sophomore standing is that students are not bound by the freshman spring credit limit of 57 units. Early sophomores can also declare their majors and get faculty advisors within their chosen department. Students accepting sophomore standing can also choose to remain undeclared and keep their freshman advisors if they chose to do so.

"I wanted to exceed the freshmen credit limit," said Devin A.

Neal '17 who recently accepted the offer of Early Sophomore Standing. Devin will be taking five 12-unit classes this semester, three units over the freshman credit limit. He was also able to declare his major, Course 6, earlier.

Early sophomores, however, are no longer on ABC/No Record grading for spring semester and are instead subject to an A to F grading scale.

Anna L. Jungbluth '17, who also accepted early sophomore standing after weighing the pros and cons, found that it was a practical decision. "I think that ABC/NR wouldn't give me that much of an advantage. If I'm concerned about my grade, I would just drop the class since drop date is so late in the semester."

Early sophomores also can take Sophomore Exploratory classes in the spring of their first year, whereas normally this option would only become available in the fall of their second year.

Jungbluth has not declared a major yet, and is looking forward to using her Sophomore Exploratory classes. "This is the time when I should decide what I want to major in by exploring different classes. Also, I get to keep my freshman advisor, which is nice," said Jungbluth.

Another early sophomore, Patrick H. Liscio '17, decided to accept the offer so that he would have more options when making his schedule. Liscio is considering Course 18, and is using his Sophomore Exploratory on 18.310A, Principles of Discrete Applied Mathematics. "I wanted the flexibility of taking more classes and being able to use my Sophomore Exploratory," said Liscio.

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William Ware, MIT alum, engineer, dies

Ware remembered for pioneering computer component engineering

By John Markoff
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Willis H. Ware, an electrical engineer who in the late 1940s helped build a machine that would become a blueprint for computer design in the 20th century, and who later played an important role in defining the importance of personal privacy in the information age, died Nov. 22 at his home in Santa Monica, Calif. He was 93. His death was confirmed by his family.

Ware led an early Pentagon computer security study. He later focused on computer privacy.

Ware's experience working on a classified World War II project to identify friendly aircraft led mathematician John von Neumann to recruit him to help develop a computer at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., in 1946.

That machine was not the first digital computer, but it was based on a set of design ideas described by von Neumann that were broadly influential - first on the design of computers built by scientists around the world, and then on an early IBM computer known as the 701. Many of these concepts are still visible in the structure of modern computers and smartphones.

Ware, part of a small group of engineers working on that machine, was first to try to engineer many of the components that would become vital for modern computers. His experience in designing high-speed electronic circuits during World War II was essential to his design work on the computer at the Institute for Advanced Study, said George Dyson, a historian who has written extensively about the project.

Ware, who worked at the RAND Corp. for more than 55 years, was also one of the first people to gain a broad view of the effect computers were having on society, in their impact on automation and the threats they posed to privacy.

The computer will touch men everywhere and in every way, almost on a minute-to-minute basis, he wrote in 1966. Every man will communicate through a computer,

whatever he does. It will change and reshape his life, modify his career and force him to accept a life of continuous change.

While at RAND, Ware led an early Pentagon study exploring computer security. Afterward he was asked by the secretary of commerce, Elliot L. Richardson, to lead a committee to address personal privacy in the computer era. Some of its policy recommendations were adopted in the Privacy Act of 1974.

The committee dealt with problems including the increasing reliance on universal identifiers like Social Security numbers.

Willis Ware laid the foundation for modern privacy law, Marc Rotenberg, executive director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center, said. His insight was that, in the computer age, organizations that collected private information would have to take responsibility, and individuals who gave up personal information would need to get rights. That insight has informed virtually every discussion of privacy law ever since.

Willis Howard Ware was born in Atlantic City, N.J., on Aug. 31, 1920, and developed an early passion for mechanical and electronic projects.

In an interview with the IEEE Computer Society in 2011, he traced his interest in engineering to a childhood observation. While riding his tricycle, he noticed that an older friend on a bicycle could pedal much faster than he could. He concluded that the lack of a chain on his trike was an obvious disadvantage.

He would go on to study electrical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating from MIT, he joined the Hazeltine Corp. to work on classified electronics projects. He obtained a Ph.D. in electrical engineering at Princeton while working on the Institute for Advanced Study machine.

He moved to Los Angeles to work for North American Aviation, and in 1952 joined RAND, where he was manager of the department where engineer Paul Baran did early work on packet switching, a technology that was the basis for the Internet.

Ware is survived by two daughters, Alison Ware and Deborah Pinson; a son, David; and two grandchildren.

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Mixed feelings about death penalty for Tsarnaev

Citizens of Boston and victims cite the damage alleged Marathon bomber did to the city

David Abel

THE NEW YORK TIMES

He lost his right leg and endured more than 20 operations. Shrapnel remains in his heart and elsewhere in his body, remnants of the Boston Marathon bombings that killed three and injured more than 260.

So when Marc Fucarile learned that the nation’s top law enforcer intends to seek the death penalty for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the surviving suspect in the bombings, Fucarile thought the decision was “just the right thing to do.”

Some who oppose the death penalty say they see this as the rare case where it should be used.

“For any terrorist who watches this around the world, they should know that we’ll put them to death,” said Fucarile, 35, of Reading, who underwent his most recent operation a few weeks ago and has at least two more scheduled. ‘It’s a powerful statement to let people know that if you do a horrible act like this, this is what will happen to you.’

Victims, first responders, spectators, runners, and others pro-

foundly affected by the attack last April responded with mixed feelings about the decision by US Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. to allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty against Tsarnaev. Some who generally oppose the death penalty said they see this as the rare occasion when it should be used. Others worried that the death penalty might be too easy an end for a young man who is also implicated in the death of an MIT police officer three days after the Marathon bombings.

Then there were those like Hilary Hayden-Moryl, 36, a veteran nurse from Ware, who was unsure how to feel. She was volunteering at the main medical tent near the finish line and witnessed the carnage up close: exposed bones piercing singed skin and rivulets of blood.

“At first, I was excited, thinking this was great news,” said Hayden-Moryl, who is training to run this year’s Boston Marathon. “But I’m not a violent person. I just don’t know. I’m really not sure how I feel now.”

A fellow volunteer at the medical tent, Nicole Fluet McGerald, who has suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder from her experience hearing the bombs detonate and treating the wounded, was less equivocal. She said two wrongs do not make a right.

“Emotionally, as much as I’d like to say, ‘Let him die,’ it won’t

solve anything,” said McGerald, 31, a physical therapist from Nashua who plans to return to the medical tent this year.

She thinks it would be a waste of money to seek the federal death penalty, which has been carried out only three times since the government reinstated it in 1988. It has not been used in Massachusetts since 1947.

Law enforcement officials argued the death penalty is the proper punishment.

“The federal government could take all the money they saved and donate it to the victims of the bombing,” she said, referring to the cost associated with death penalty cases, including expensive appeals.

Law enforcement officials who took part in the effort to capture Tsarnaev argued that the death penalty is the proper punishment.

“Given the vicious nature of the crime, the lives lost, and the hundreds injured on that fateful day, today’s decision to seek the death penalty seems appropriate,” said Boston Police Commissioner William Evans, who ran in the Marathon, then helped oversee the response to the bombing at the finish

line.

Police Chief Edward P. Deveau of Watertown said he was pleased by the decision, especially given the impact on his city, where Tsarnaev was captured in a boat in a homeowner’s yard hours after a shootout.

“I think it’s a well thought out decision, based on all the facts that have been outlined by the US attorney general,” Deveau said. “I support it based on that. I have spoken to my officers here, and they feel the same way.”

Former State Police trooper Sean Murphy, who retired after leaking photos of Tsarnaev’s capture, called the attorney general’s decision “the most appropriate course of action.”

“If it doesn’t make sense for this case, what does it make sense for?” said Murphy, 48, of Chelmsford, who will be running this year’s Marathon to raise money in honor of Martin Richard, the 8-year-old from Dorchester who died while watching the race with his family.

In the moments after the April 15 attack, Bruce Mendelsohn, 45, a former Army lieutenant from Auburn, tied a rag around the lower left leg of a young Northeastern University student, making a tourniquet that helped save her life.

“I’m not a vindictive person, but the stuff this guy did is beyond excusable,” he said. “Does this provide closure? Not really. But I think if we strip away the veneer of our forgiveness, I think people want to

see him suffer, because of the suffering he inflicted.”

Steve Fiola of Fitchburg, a first lieutenant in the National Guard, helped pull scaffolding away so rescuers could reach victims, put out a fire burning one man, and administered a tourniquet. While he lacks a strong conviction about the death penalty, he said he supports its use if it brings comfort to some victims.

“This is the most severe punishment that they could seek, and that is indicative of the level of commitment the justice system has in going after this,” he said. “That will help everyone in their recovery.”

Before Holder’s decision was announced, Liz Norden of Stoneham, whose two sons each lost a leg in the blasts, said she had told prosecutors looking for input from victims that they should seek the death penalty.

“My life, my kids’ lives have been changed forever,” said Norden, who was speaking for herself and not her sons, J.P. and Paul.

She said she would be disappointed if the government ultimately allows a plea bargain, enabling Tsarnaev to get life without parole.

Norden added, though, that neither of her sons wanted to take part in the discussion and have consistently chosen to be silent on the subject.

“They don’t have time; they don’t even think about it,” she said. “They’re focused on their recovery.”

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New add/drop system receives positive feedback

Online application process will soon accommodate other useful online forms for students

Add/Drop Paperless, from Page 1

request to add, drop, or change a unit. “The digital environment enabled us to extend the deadline for student submittal until 11:59 p.m. No more running to shove the form under the Registrar’s door by 5 p.m.!” according to Mary R. Callahan, MIT’s Registrar, who explained that the deadlines were the only policy to change as a result of the new form system.

“A nice feature of the new system is that there is logic behind the deadlines for when a student can submit a particular transaction,” said Callahan. Sophomores, for example, were able to use the system to alter their exploratory option prior to the Registration Day deadline.

According to Eamon Kearns, Associate Director of Education Systems (part of IS&T), 30 freshmen were successfully able to drop courses through the online program during a pilot period held during the fall 2013 semester. “We were confident, based upon the pilot, that the app was ready to be deployed to the full community,” stated Kearns.

Students generally showed positive responses to the new add/drop system. “Tracking down a professor to sign a form was difficult. You don’t need that, it just made life more complicated,” said Scott A. Skirlo ‘13, a graduate student, when asked about his experience with add/drop. Skirlo also commented that the new interface is easy to use

electronic forms; this is excellent for us.” Other students were disappointed that the system was only launched midway through their academic careers. Grace Tuyiringire ‘14 said she would like to see other forms online in the future, commenting that the new add/drop program “is well overdue at MIT.”

Jazzmyne L. Washington ’14 recalled a time when she was unable to find a professor for a drop signature, putting her in danger of failing the course. Others were disappointed that the system came so late.

and a significant improvement from what he experienced as an undergraduate.

When asked about her experiences adding and dropping courses, Jazzmyne L. Washington ‘14 recalled a time when she was unable to find a professor for a drop signature, putting her in danger of failing that course. “During the semester professors are busy and people are dropping at random times,” Washington added. “The new online system is going to be much more convenient with all

Kearns told *The Tech* that more forms are likely to come. “Our goal is to roll out several additional forms in the next year, including the HASS concentration form, late add/drop petition, and the Dean for Graduate Education petition,” he said.

“The add/drop form involves a complex workflow, which will pave the way for future forms and petitions to utilize the framework developed in this app,” Callahan said.

The difficulty of creating the online ver-

sion may be the reason the deployment only came out recently.

“The paper add/drop provided the option of changing grading status, such as selecting listener or junior/senior P/D/F and adjusting units, and the digital version affords the same opportunities,” Callahan explained. “When these and all of the nuances of add/drop are taken into consideration, it is clear why this form was complex to digitize.”

“Once we determined the common framework required for supporting multiple forms and petitions, we focused on delivering the specific add/drop functionality, which took 9 months,” said Kearns.

Callahan also stressed that administrators spent a great deal of time listening to faculty and student “add/drop pain points.” “Add/drop impacts a large segment of the community and our focus is on improving the student experience,” Callahan said. “We are so excited to be able to provide this service to our students and faculty. Our goal is to enhance the student-advisor relationship by providing a coherent user experience that is efficient and fun to use.”



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Dortmund and Real Madrid also expected to come out on top in their matchups in Last 16

Tuesday's issue covered the first half of the Last 16 matchups. This time, we will focus on the remaining four matchups. These matchups will have their first games on either February 25 or 26 and the second leg matches on either March 18 or 19.

This matchup seems fairly straightforward, as Manchester United would be expected to easily see off their Greek opposition, but at this stage in Champions League soccer, nothing is for certain. Olympiacos managed to finish their group second, ahead of Portuguese powerhouses Benfica, which itself may have come as a surprise to most. This goes to show that they should not be taken lightly. They currently sit comfortably in first place in the Greek Super League, having tied only twice in 21 matches. Their Champions League group stage performance went fairly well, collecting 10 points. But it is important to note that they lost twice to Paris Saint-Germain, who are of the same caliber as Manchester United. This is not a good sign for Olympiacos heading into the Last 16.

Manchester United continue to have an inconsistent run in the Premier League. Furthermore, they were eliminated from the FA Cup. In the Champions League, they have collected 14 points in the group stage. While United's performances have slightly picked up form in the Premier League, they are still losing to the

With that said, Olympiacos is not Tottenham or Chelsea, and United have had a more consistent run in the Champions League. Even if Olympiacos may cause a slight scare among United fans, Manchester United will come out on top in the end of the two legs.

Galatasaray have advanced to the Last 16 two years in a row now. Last year, they had faced off against Schalke and had come out on top. This year their opponents are the star-studded Chelsea managed by Jose Mourinho. Chelsea are in third place and right within range of first place in the Premier League. They've lost only twice in the Champions League, both times to Basel, and collected 12 points. They've scored 56 goals and conceded 23 in the Champions League and Premier League combined. They've had their fair share of big wins in their latest matches, including a decisive 3-1 win over Manchester United and a 1-0 win over Manchester City.

Galatasaray managed to overcome Juventus with a late goal by Wesley Sneijder to see them through to the next round, while Juventus had to settle with third. Galatasaray have had an inconsistent form in the Turkish League and the Champions League. Ever since Roberto Mancini took over the managerial role, Galatasaray have converted to the 3-5-2 formation. Although they reaped

its benefits in the Champions League game against Juventus, they have also seen that same tactic fail them time after time. Mancini's Galatasaray got four points out of the two Juventus matchups, but lost 4-1 to Real Madrid. (The first loss to Real Madrid was during Fatih Terim's reign). In the Turkish League they've used a variety of formations, and although they've won most of their home games, they've tied most of their

away games. That being said, an away tie would definitely be in favor for Galatasaray. Chelsea should be especially cautious about playing in Istanbul because Galatasaray utterly dominate when playing at home. Galatasaray do have their own arsenal of weapons with players like Didier Drogba and Wesley Sneijder. The Dutchman, especially, has been in phenomenal form recently. If Galatasaray continue playing the way did in their recent 6-0 win in the Turkish league over Bursaspor, then Galatasaray do have a good shot at the next round. This draw seems to be leaning towards Chelsea, but one can never be sure what exactly to expect from Galatasaray, who have their own star power as well. Chelsea is more likely to qualify for the quarterfinals, but don't count out Galatasaray just yet.

This is one of the more interesting draws in the Champions League Last 16. Dortmund finished first in a group where the first three teams all had 12 points (with Arsenal finishing second and Napoli finishing third and failing to advance to the Last 16), and Zenit finished in their own group with only six points. Some may argue that this was unfair, but luck is also part of the reality of soccer.

Dortmund are currently third in the Bundesliga with 36 points and are four points behind second place Bayer Leverkusen. They had a tough group but managed to come out on top. Zenit, on the other hand, despite doing well in their own league at first place with 40 points, have struggled throughout the Champions League. They have managed to get only one win during the entire group stage and tied three times. Although Zenit have important players like Hulk and Danny, Dortmund are the better team overall, as reflected by their results in the Champions League. With their fans behind them, Dortmund will surely qualify to the next round.

Real Madrid have recently gained large amounts of mo-

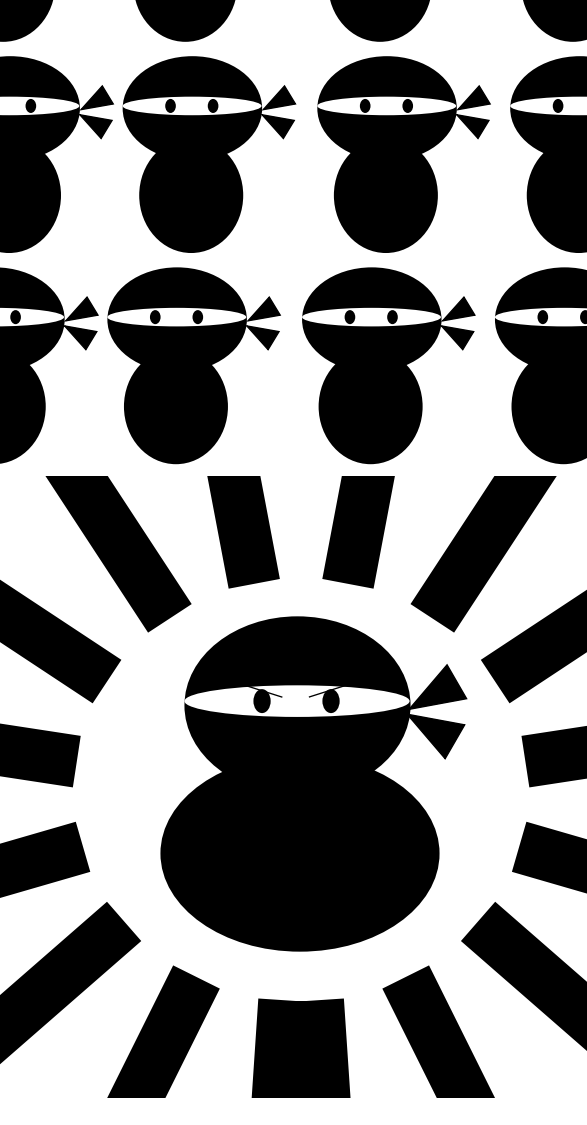
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mentum in the Spanish La Liga. They have caught up to Barcelona and are within reach of Atletico Madrid. They also finished the Champions League group stage with 16 points. Their lethal weapons, Gareth Bale and Cristiano Ronaldo, manage to delight soccer fans all over the world with fantastic goals every week as long as they manage to stay healthy. In fact, Gareth Bale had recently suffered an injury, but it will be a thing of the past by the time Madrid face Schalke. Real Madrid are still the same old Real Madrid with the same star power and raw talent.

Schalke 04, on the other hand, are currently in fourth position in the Bundesliga and finished second in their Champions League group with 10 points. They suffered two losses in the group stage, both at the hands of Chelsea, an opponent that is on par with Real Madrid. Schalke has an inconsistent league form, and the fact that they could not compete with star-studded teams like Bayern Munich (lost 4-0 in the first half of the season) in the Bundesliga and Chelsea in the Champions League only adds to their list of disadvantages against Real Madrid. Even if Schalke could put up a challenge for Real Madrid, Real Madrid will be the ones to advance to the next round.

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